

the District Court bench has seen. Joseph has presided over many of the region's most high-profile trials. From 1998 until 2001 he oversaw at least 10 high profile cases including the infamous case of Rick Tabish, Sandy Murphy, Margaret Rudin, Timmy "T.J." Weber, and Jeremy Strohmeier. He has also presided over the murder trial of Tony Amati who was once on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted List. His contributions to the jurisprudence and law and order have greatly enhanced the lives of countless citizens of Southern Nevada.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Judge Joseph Bonaventure. His long and distinguished career on the District Court is admirable and his expertise will be greatly missed. I wish him the best in his retirement.

#### TRIBUTE TO KAREN HAAS

#### HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2007*

Mr. HASTERT. Madam Speaker I would like to mark Karen L. Haas' last day as Clerk of the House with a word of personal thanks.

When I asked Karen to be Clerk in the fall of 2005 she wasn't sure she could do the job or even wanted it. I never doubted her talents and her ability to do the job, nor did anyone who knew her. Luckily for us, she agreed to my request, and the House wisely elected her to the position of Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I knew Karen would bring intelligence and integrity to the position, and she has. She brought her perfectionist work ethics to the job, working the long hours even after the House had adjourned and everyone else had gone home. When there were difficulties to face, Karen did it with a level head, common sense, and the best interest of this institution as her guide.

Karen's love for this institution would permeate in everything she did in office and influenced those having the privilege to work beside her. My only regret is that her tenure was too short.

Before she was named as Clerk of the House, Karen ably served the Speaker's staff as a floor assistant. She made sure the right people were in the Speaker's chair each day and for every debate. She assisted me with our committee assignments and always had a ready answer for any question. Karen was also responsible for my appointments to boards and commissions, and she helped recruit some fine public servants to serve in those positions.

Before working in my office, she worked for my friend and mentor from Illinois, Bob Michel. She had good teachers there, and it was there that she developed the talents that would serve her and this House so well in the future.

I also want to thank Karen's family for sharing her with us. The night that she was elected Clerk, her family sat in the Speaker's gallery as she was sworn in. You could see in their faces how proud they were of their daughter, sister, wife and mother. Mark, her husband, and her children, Amanda and Brett, have sacrificed much in order that the House could benefit from Karen's talents. I want to acknowledge them and thank them as well for sharing with us one of the finest public serv-

ants I have ever known. Thank you, Karen, for a job well done.

#### HONORING AND PRAISING THE NAACP ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 98TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 12, 2007*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 44, "Honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 98th anniversary."

Coretta Scott King once said that "struggle is a never-ending process and freedom is never really won—you earn it and win it in every generation." And since 1909, generations of Americans who have fought for racial equality and the expansion of liberty have had a friend and advocate in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

While its name entails that the NAACP seeks to advance the fortunes of African Americans, I believe that its true mission is to advance the goals of all Americans—for when we move closer to becoming a beacon of hope and opportunity for all people, regardless of race or ethnicity, we all reap the benefits.

When the light of social justice is shined in the dark corners where prejudice and bigotry still exist, our nation becomes stronger. When people who had been mistreated and oppressed become empowered to take steps towards the American Dream, our nation becomes stronger. And when we take actions that elevate the things that unite us above those that drive us apart, our nation becomes stronger.

And that is what the NAACP is all about—strengthening our nation by reminding us that while we have come a long way in our struggle for freedom and equality, we are not yet perfect, and must always remain vigilant in pursuit of a world where all men and women are treated with the respect and dignity that all human beings possess.

I'm proud to be a member of the NAACP. I'm proud to be from the state that the NAACP has called home for so many years. And I'm grateful that the NAACP has provided such strong and talented partners in working for social justice both in Maryland's Fifth Congressional District and throughout our nation as a whole.

I'd like to congratulate the NAACP on 98 years of promoting what is best about America—and I look forward to continuing to work together with NAACP members toward our shared goals of equality and prosperity for all.

I urge all Members to support this important bill.

#### 80TH BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE TO ROGER "BUCK" HILL

#### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2007*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to call attention to the lifetime of artistic achieve-

ments of tenor saxophonist Roger "Buck" Hill, an outstanding jazz musician from Washington, D.C., who celebrates his 80th birthday this week with a performance at the Smithsonian Jazz Cafe on Friday, February 16, 2007.

Buck Hill was the featured performer at the very first Congressional Black Caucus Jazz Forum and Concert that I hosted back in 1985. He was a first-call artist for me back then, and he continues to be just that, here and around the world.

Buck Hill recently released "Relax", his first recording as a band leader in nearly 15 years. It marks the reemergence of one of America's greatest national treasures onto the international jazz scene.

As he approaches his 80th birthday Hill remains a vital voice on his instrument, with a robust personal sound that reaches back to the horn's early masters like Lester Young, and onward into the glory days of bebop and beyond, recalling John Coltrane.

A lifelong resident of Washington, D.C., Hill first studied music with the same teacher who instructed a young Duke Ellington, and went on to become a member of the house band in the city's world famous Howard Theater. A fixture on the Capital jazz scene for over sixty years, Hill revealed his enormous talent to the world beginning in the late seventies with a series of excellent records for Steeplechase and Muse. Guest appearances on several of fellow D.C. legend Shirley Horn's albums brought him widespread critical and popular notice in the 1990s before he once again returned to his hometown.

Hill's most recent work proves that he's still one of the best tenor men in jazz today. The group, featuring his regular bandmates John Ozmert at the Hammond organ and Jerry Jones on drums, plus Paul Pieper on guitar, offers up straight-ahead jazz on an eight song program split evenly between the leader's own original compositions and classic jazz material.

The return of Buck Hill to the world of jazz recording is indeed a momentous occasion and cause for celebration. Hill plays the tenor with the authoritative voice of experience and his well-seasoned sound is a link to the saxophone's glorious past and a lesson to those who wish to move the horn into the future. His work is a true testament not just to his longevity, but also to his continued growth as a master saxophonist, bandleader and composer.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO ADAM SCHULTHEIS

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Mr. Adam Schultheis, an exceptional music teacher at Boulder City High School whose work has recently earned him a student-nominated Outstanding American Teacher Honor Roll.

For more than 20 years Adam has served the students of Boulder City with his dedication and commitment to excellence in music education. Adam earned his bachelor's degree in music education and performance at the University of Arizona Tucson while studying on a full scholarship. He then went on to earn his

master's degree in elementary education from Nova University in Florida.

Adam began his teaching career in Boulder City at Elton Garrett Elementary School before moving to Boulder City High School where he currently teaches. Adam is recognized by students and parents alike for his patience, kindness, and knowledge. His efforts have earned him many awards including the prestigious Disney American Teacher Award and the Veterans of Foreign Wars' National Citizenship Education Teachers Award.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my friend Mr. Adam Schultheis and his many achievements. His dedication to the community and to music education is remarkable. I wish Mr. Schultheis continued success in his future endeavors.

#### CONGRATULATIONS KENDALL CIESEMIER

#### HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2007*

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kendall Ciesemier of Wheaton for her outstanding volunteer efforts and service to others.

At just 14 years old, Kendall is the founder of Kids Caring 4 Kids, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS epidemic currently devastating Africa. Through community outreach and fundraising, Kendall has made an incredible difference in the lives of AIDS orphans in a village in Zambia.

In spite of her recent personal struggle with two liver transplants, Kendall has tirelessly directed her remarkable talent and energy to serving others. To date, she has raised over \$50,000 and just this week was recognized as one of the nation's top youth volunteers by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program.

I commend Kendall for her strength of character and selfless community service.

Kendall, your family, your school, and your community are extremely proud of what you've accomplished. I wish you all the best in the future. Keep up the good work!

#### A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE LEO T. MCCARTHY

#### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 14, 2007*

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, the following are the remarks of remembrance given by the Honorable Art Agnos, former Mayor of San Francisco and long time member of the California Legislature on the occasion of the vigil and rosary of his former boss, mentor, and brother-friend, the Honorable Leo T. McCarthy, who passed away on February 5, 2007.

I never thought this day would come for me.

Over the 40 years I worked for Leo McCarthy, I came to think of him as indestructible . . . as he became my boss . . . my mentor . . . my role model . . . and simply my best friend.

For me, Leo was never sick . . . never tired . . . never discouraged . . . and never gave up . . . no matter what confronted him.

He just showed up every day ready to tackle every challenge that stood in the way of making life better for the poor, the needy, the worker, the children, the aged and anyone else who might need his help in our society.

Leo was one of those rare public officials who got better in every way . . . the closer you got to him.

There were no feet of clay here.

One of my early remembrances of him is on our first trip to Sacramento together in December of 1968.

Leo had just been elected to the assembly and it was my first week on the job as his new assistant. On that day he wanted us to drive together to checkout the new office and meet with the Assembly leader Jess Unruh to discuss his committee assignments.

I remember that it was raining hard that day, pouring, and in what was to become our routine for the next 10 years—I was driving and he was teaching, as we talked about the issues of the day and what we might do about them in the year to come.

Just as we passed Dixon on Highway 80, the rear tire went flat and I had to pull over. As I came to a stop, Leo said suddenly, "Wait here, opened the car door in the pouring rain and ran through a hayfield the length of a football stadium to a service station to get help with the flat tire.

I stayed in the car warm and dry.

He was still soaking wet through his suit when we got to Sacramento. Undaunted, he kept his appointment with Unruh as though nothing had happened.

And that's the way it was, every time.

He never asked his staff, and there were hundreds of us by the end of his political career, to do anything he wouldn't do. He cared about all of us, our careers—our families, our well being.

Every one of his former staff will tell you similar stories about when he would apologize for taking them away from their family when they had to work late on legislative testimony for the next day, or how he would show up at the Operating Engineers at 2 in the morning with food and encouragement as we printed brochures to help elect another candidate who would vote for him to be Speaker in 1974.

And what a Speakership that was!

The best description I ever heard was from the former Republican Speaker of the Assembly, Bob Monagan from Tracy, California.

Bob had left the legislature some years before and was the President of the California Manufacturers Association when he said Leo McCarthy's Speakership would be remembered in the history of the California Legislature as the "Days of Lancelot."

You see, Leo was a leader who inspired other politicians—not with his power or tactics, but with his integrity, his adherence to good principle, and his deep commitment to the common good.

In all his years, there were no scandals, no innuendos, no shameful disgrace, and the legislature followed his example in doing the best work it ever did for the people of California.

That's not me talking. It is every editorial written in every major newspaper since last Tuesday.

Over the last 7 months, I saw a lot of him in the hospital, as did many of you.

We talked about his career, successes and failures. We soon ran out of failures, but the successes went on for ever. But I had to bring them up—Coastal preservation, Nursing Home reform, Farm Worker legislation, Subdivision Reform, Mental Health, Child nutrition, Human rights, Legislative Transparency and on and on.

But most of all, most of all, as great and prodigious the volume of his work, Leo was proudest of his family.

Jackie was the light of his life. She was his love, his energy, his will to live as they raised four magnificent children you will hear from tomorrow morning.

And then you will know for yourselves why he always answered the question: "What was your most important work—with a resounding, 'My family!'"

The things he did to try and make his contribution as a father and a husband are legendary to all of us.

You have heard and read the thousands of roundtrips to and from Sacramento by car, greyhound bus, and even airplane.

It was all very real because the kids were going to see their father every night no matter what. He always said that Jackie did all the work, but he had to be there for whatever he could do at night.

One of my favorite stories starts one morning when I could not drive him and he drove himself down to the greyhound station to catch the 7 a.m. bus to Sacramento.

He was late and very much focused on the busy day to come in the Legislature. So he sped into the parking lot, jumped out of the car, tossed the keys and 20 bucks to the man standing by the pay booth while running to catch the bus.

That night I got a call from a perplexed Leo asking where his car was because the lot was empty and the attendant was gone. For three days he did not believe me when I tried to tell him that there was no attendant at that lot because it was self pay.

We didn't talk about it again for a while because on the fourth day he learned the car had been found intact by the SFPD with an empty gas tank. And the rumor was that some homeless guy was going around town telling about the nice guy who tossed the keys to him with 20 bucks and ran off.

The longest trip home for Leo was one he took this past January.

He had been in the hospital for 6 consecutive months—something neither he, his family, or any of us could have imagined when we watched him being wheeled into UC hospital on June 1st of last year—not to mention the countless number of difficult tests in all kinds of machines, hundreds of needle sticks, a combined month and a half in the intensive care unit, dialysis every other day, cups of awful tasting medicinal concoctions, and bravely fight harder than ever before as he became weaker and weaker.

But as his body failed, his mind and spirit did not.

There were several times when he was asked, "Do you want to go on?"

And every time—every time—his answer was the same. "Yes! I have things to do."

He was planning family vacations next year with Jackie. He was advising Kevin about jobs after Law School. He was listening carefully to Courtney's added responsibilities at work, talking to Niall about a big case, he was thinking about Adam's new environmental business deals—he absorbed all of Conna's scholastic and athletic news about her children—he listened intently as Sharon discussed the latest events at St. Stephens—he studied writeups about outstanding college football players and discussed them with Dale so he could make the best choices for his famous annual top 10 NFL Draft choices list he published to family and selected friends, and occasionally to Bill Walsh at the 49ers.

He did all this from a hospital bed he was too weak to get out of, all the while monitoring and mentoring by phone and in person, one more politician—the future Speaker of the House of Representatives.

He loved the phone calls and visits from Nancy and her right arm and another former McCarthy staffer, Representative Anna Eshoo. Every week they were in town—they